1910 - 1960

50th ANNIVERSARY

Mueller Record

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The Mueller Record

VOL. I NOVEMBER 1, 1910 No. 1

Beginning with this issue, the Sales Department will have printed a paper on the first and fifteenth of each month. It will be known as the MUELLER RECORD. It is especially for the benefit of the salesmen and will be the medium through which advantageous trade news will be furnished you.

Its columns will be used to advise you of any particular line of goods we are pushing in the trade journals; general information we may have regarding our competitors; information about any new article which we are working on or may have nearly ready for the market; letters of testimony regarding Mueller Goods which may come to us and which may prove strong talking points for you; results of any tests which may be made between our goods and others; and big deals which may be of interest to you, and, in fact, any news items regarding our trade, or trade in general, that we think may be of benefit to you in the pursuance of your work.

Your hearty co-operation is needed to make the MUELLER RECORD a benefit to the business. We therefore ask you to be on the alert for any information regarding our competitors and what they are doing in your territory, with prices they are quoting, and methods they are employing to secure business.

Let us know from time to time what you consider the best article to push in your particular territory. If certain circulars or booklets have had a particularly good effect on business in your territory, keep us advised, in order that we may try the same in some other part of the country. Give us any information whatever that you think will be of benefit to any of the other salesmen, or the business.

We want your criticism and advice that will tend to further development and efficiency of the MUELLER RECORD, and will certainly appreciate such. We are satisfied that with proper co-operation this paper can be made a potential factor in the upbuilding of our business.

The paper is not for outsiders. It's wholly a family affair, and will not be circulated outside of the salesmen and those entitled to such information as it will contain.

All communications should be addressed to the General Sales Manager.

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THE OUTLOOK IS BRIGHT

A Heavy Winter Business in Sight—Get After It

The business outlook is promising.

The abundant crops we have had throughout the country, the settlement of freight difficulties, and the general return of confidence in the stability of trade, have a marked tendency to improve business conditions.

The only factor likely to create unrest and disturb conditions is the election November 8th, but even that is not seriously considered, and it will be over and out of the way in a few days.

With these facts as a basis, we would predict the heaviest winter business in our experience. We also predict that the valuation of our 1911 business will be in excess of 1910, which has been the best year we ever had. While our 1910 business is the largest in our history, goods have been sold at a very close margin and the profit is not what it should be.

It seems certain that with the improvement of general business conditions throughout the country, prices

Mueller sales representative Bob Cope left, discusses story material with the RECORD editor Jim Milligan, at a motel in Paducah, Kentucky. Cope was the person who encountered the story possibility.

The Anatomy of a RECORD — From Start to Finish

1960 Marks 50 Years of Publication

Bleed to the top: A duotone spread: Split the gutter: Pull a proof and okay the dummy. These terms mean nothing to the average RECORD reader but they are important and used almost daily by editors, printers and engravers. Not only are they unfamiliar and foreign to the reader but the entire process and most of the people who go into helping publish the RECORD are unknown. As part of the Golden Anniversary of the RECORD, a visual journey through the task of its preparations has been arranged. It includes the first contact with the source of the story, a trip to Kentucky to gather material and pictures, planning sessions with printers and engravers, and finally the end product rolling off the press. We hope this photographic story will help you understand a little about the publication of this magazine and that you will keep it in mind as you read it during its second 50 years.

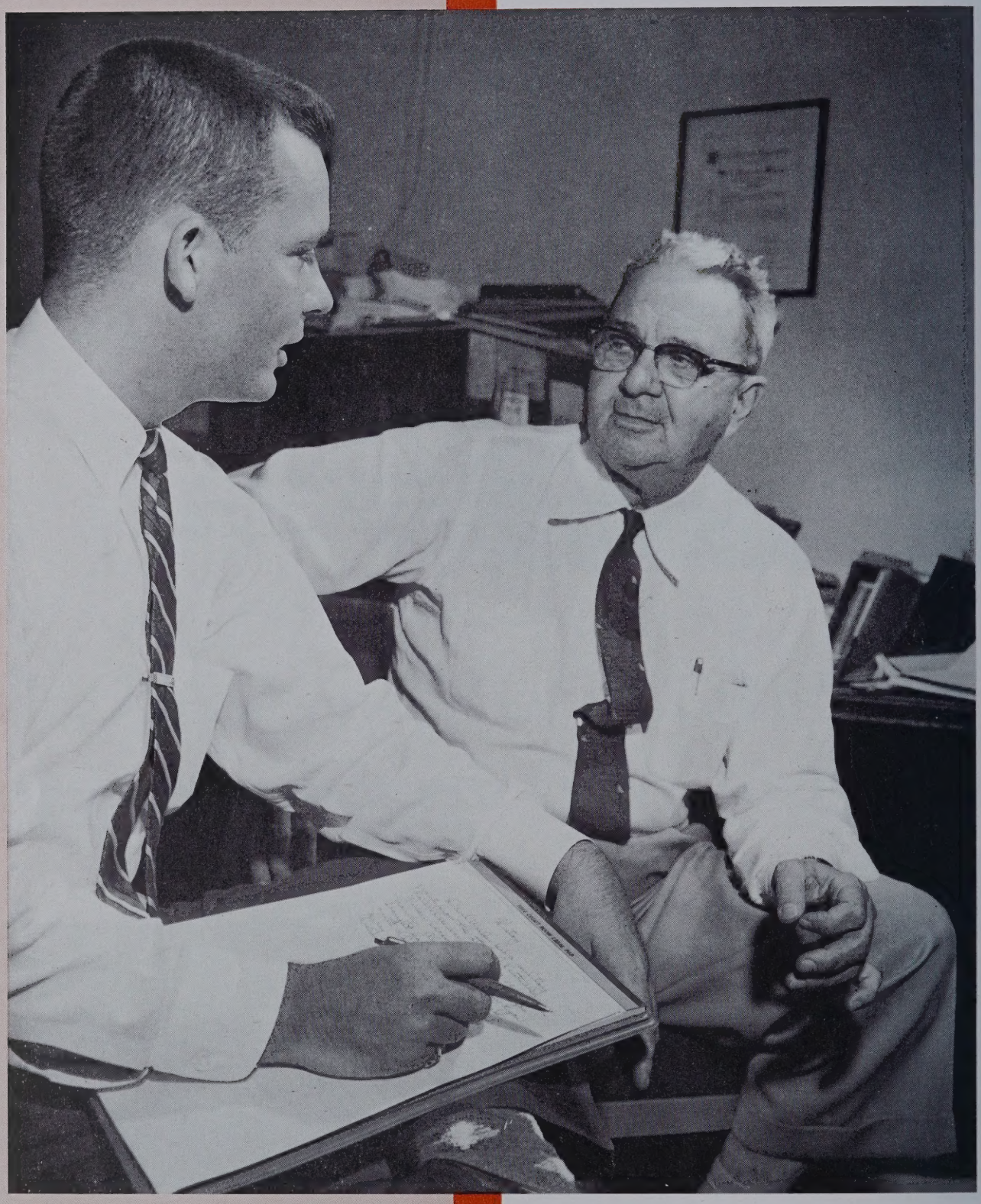
It took several conferences at Mueller Co. to achieve our goal for this issue of the RECORD: an anniversary issue which is "just a little bit different" from the stereotyped magazines filled with old-time photos and historical narrative.

This, then, is the "different" approach we sought—a pictorial record of an issue. In the following pages, you will see editor Jim Milligan "on location" in Eddyville, Kentucky.

Such trips, to gather much of the material you read in the RECORD each month have taken Milligan more than 50,000 miles in three years, and are measured in terms of many thousands of words of type.

Following this illustrated section on "How to publish a company magazine" is the story which took Milligan and a photographer to Eddyville, Kentucky. We are pleased to bring you this pictorial narrative.

On the way to Eddyville from Paducah, Cope stops at the site of the Barkley Dam. Here he shows the editor the progress on the cofferdam and locks. Giant Kentucky Lake is beyond the ridge of hills in the background.



The first interview is with Jim N. Smith, president of the First State Bank. Mr. Smith briefs Milligan on the history of the project.

Mr. Smith indicates new Eddyville on the map. Looking on, left to right, are Hunter Owen, engineer, Cope, Ben H. Smith, city clerk, and Milligan.

Mayor Frank Tanner relates some of the events which led up to the formal dedication of the site of new Eddyville.

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CHATTA

Merle Nelson and Gene Holloway use this rare opportunity for a conference to discuss the project in general. The man on the left indicates that water-line work is progressing satisfactorily, thanks to good weather. Several homes at the site are already occupied, and many others are under construction. Much of new Eddyville will have taken shape by late 1961.

Cope points out some of the features of the Mueller Improved Hydrant to Hunter Owen and Nelson, resident engineer on the Eddyville project.

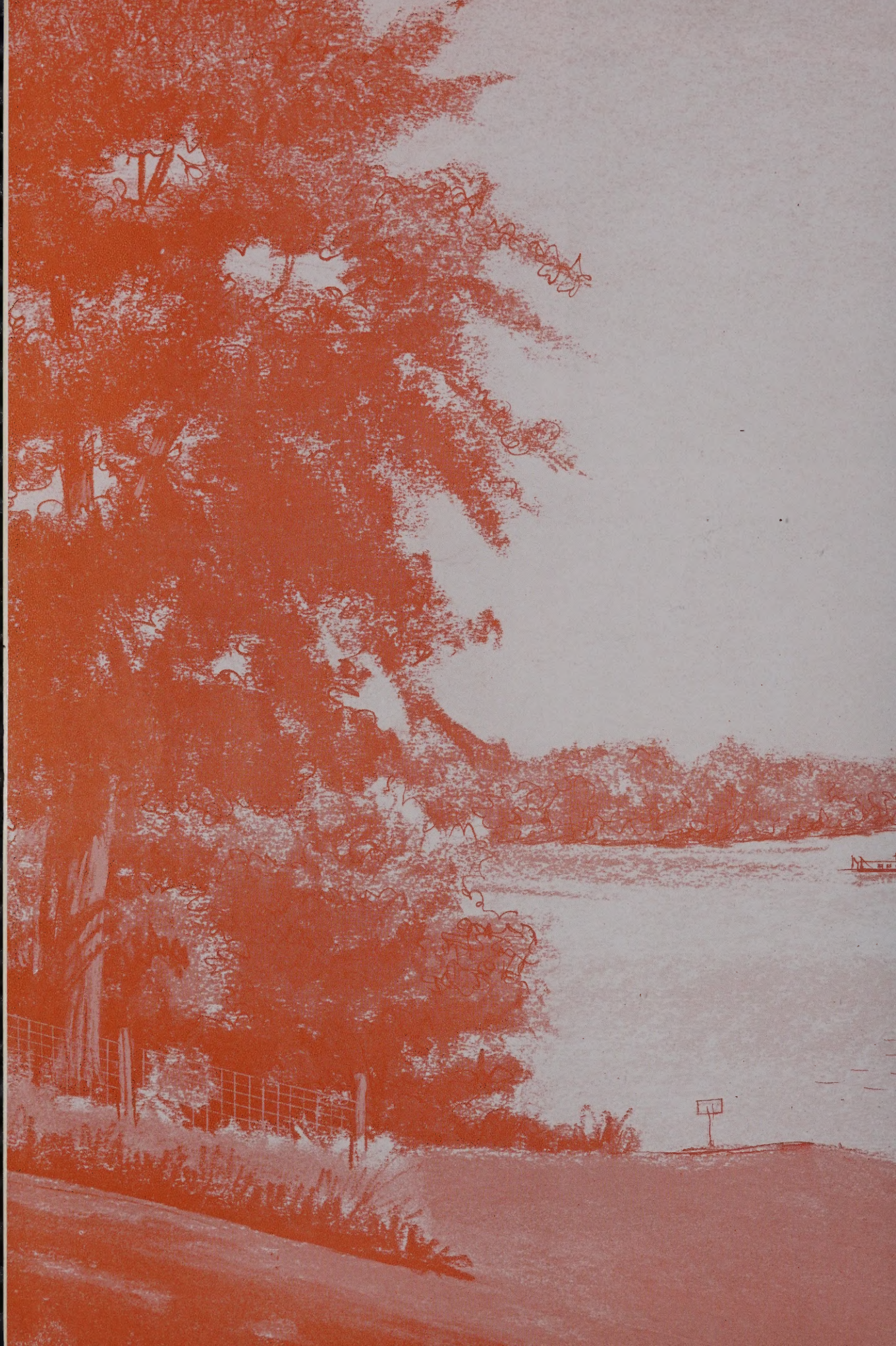
At the left, Nelson discusses progress on the water line work with Holloway of Holloway & Son and one of Holloway's men.

Back in Decatur, Milligan discusses the photographs taken in Eddyville with Tom Gunn (seated) and Neil Kane, both of Kane Engraving.

Below, a brief meeting with J. W. Patterson and Lynn H. Hiser decides the paper stock which is used in this issue of the RECORD. Both gentlemen represent Huston-Patterson, Decatur, the firm which has printed the RECORD for many years.

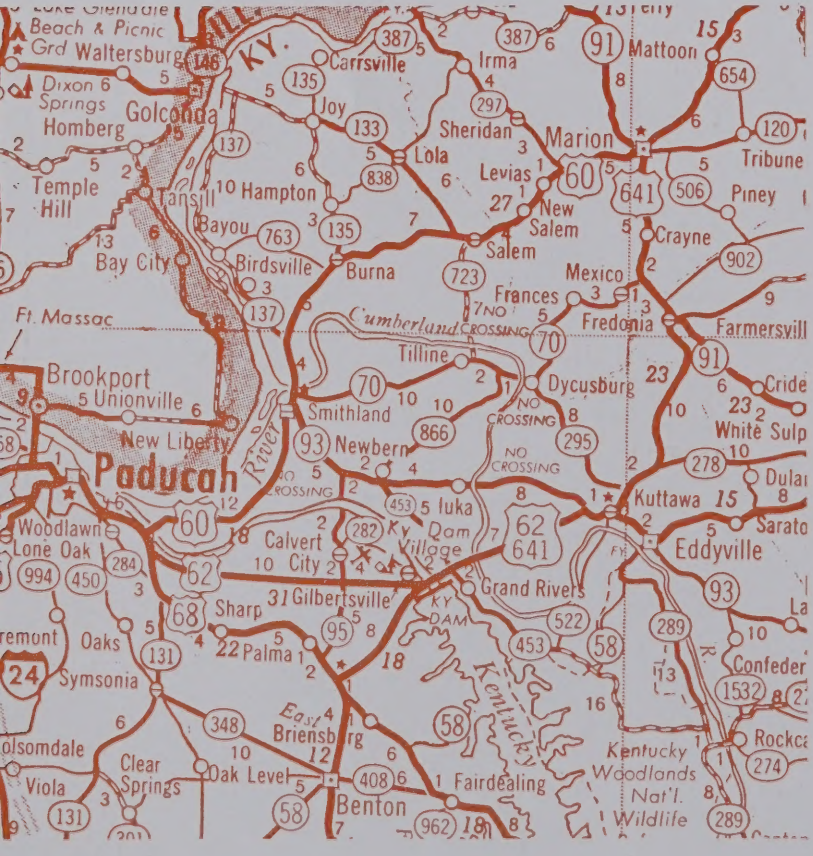
Left, a last-minute check of the RECORD as it appears in the printer's form, ready to be placed on the press. Both Carl Foerster (left) and Ralph Fowler (right) work with Milligan on each issue of the RECORD.

Marvin Witt shows Milligan the first press proof of the RECORD. In the background is Jim Shondel, who is ready to start the press.



THE normally friendly Cumberland River can suddenly turn into a raging demon at the slightest provocation, throwing fear into the hearts of those living along its banks. Living beside this threat for years has forced a community of 600 persons to sacrifice most of the town to the powers of the waters in exchange for the promise of permanent safety from the temperamental stream. Some have gone so far as to fight for the project which will eventually cause much of the town to be permanently swallowed by tons of water, but they know that this is their only means of freedom from the river. It is, of course, difficult for them to watch the destruction of this town of 160 years but in the hearts of the townspeople there is really no destruction. They are merely moving their old town to a new location—where it will have a chance to grow and prosper and themselves with it. This, then, is the story of Eddyville, Ky. . . .

Eddyville is located about 30 miles slightly southeast of Paducah.



THE Cumberland River lazes its way northward through Tennessee, into Kentucky, and merges with the historic Ohio just a short distance northeast of Paducah. As it approaches this junction, it curves sharply and passes near Kentucky Lake, a fairly recent recreational development which attracts thousands of campers, fishermen and boating enthusiasts annually.

At this curve is a slight eddy which provided a navigational problem for the riverboats of old—the stern-wheelers which plied the waters of the Cumberland and the Ohio for so many colorful years.

High bluffs overlook the eddy—land which had remained largely unsettled and untraveled until, in early 1800, a veteran named David Walker applied for and received a military land grant. Apparently Walker had no great interest in use of the land beyond his own immediate needs, for records show that he sold much of the area to a man named Matthew Lyon. Lyon, however, had some definite plans for this parcel of land. These plans materialized into Eddyville, a town which was laid out, and even inhabited, under his direction.

There isn't a great deal of Eddyville history to relate. Its history has rolled forward as slowly, and at most times as peacefully, as the river which it overlooks. But Eddyville is inextricably woven into the fabric of that river. The Cumberland has been Eddyville's blessing and its curse.

This Jekyl and Hyde relationship is the history of Eddyville. Close your eyes for a moment, and you will see the residents of the town gathering at the river landing, waiting to board a colorful stern-wheeler for a Sunday trip on the Cumberland. There is a great deal of excitement over the prospect of a bright sun, a cool river breeze, a picnic lunch on board, and a refreshing sunset return home.

The next day, or perhaps the day after that, dark clouds push their way over the tops of the bluffs, and the rain begins—softly at first, but increasing to a steady downpour which lasts for hours. The river is alive and growing. It moves its fingers of water higher and higher, grasping at the feet of the few brave souls who stand on the bank with fear in their eyes—fear born of experience with this river. They have seen it restless before, and they know what it means. They turn their backs dejectedly and climb the bluff homeward—to wait.

As so many times before, the river swells, and begins its inevitable climb up the steps of the bluff and onto the lower streets of the town. After it has chewed away not only bits of earth and homes, but the future of Eddyville itself, the Cumberland slowly quiets, retreats down the side of the bluff, and becomes, once again, the pleasurable vehicle of Sunday outings.

Thus the years pass. Sometimes the water achieves fantastic heights. In the late 1930's, it reached a height of six feet inside the First State Bank, which is located well up on the first plateau of the bluff. Even today you can notice the frame building which houses the grocery store, obviously leaning away from its foundation. Strange as it may seem, that building was the victim of an unexpected assault by a riverboat. During one of the many floods the boat was actually floating up and down the main street of Eddyville, picking up people who were stranded in buildings and on whatever dry ground was accessible. Temporarily out of control, it rammed the side of the grocery store, and the impact was sufficiently great to move the building off its foundation.

There are no really new commercial buildings in Eddyville, and most of the few newer homes are located high on the second step of the bluff—away from the ravages of the Cumberland. Not many people have moved into the town down through the years, and only a few have moved out. Individuals have progressed, but the town has hesitated. There have been times, to be sure, when Eddyville appeared on the verge of leaping forward. But—always—the river was there to discourage the influx of business and new blood which is so vital to the growth of a town.

Some fifteen years ago, a spark of new life was seen and felt in Eddyville—a spark which took the form not only of concern by residents of the town,

but also of concern by the Federal government. One question kept cropping up whenever and wherever flood control in this area of Kentucky was discussed: "What about a dam—a dam not only to control the ravages of the Cumberland, but also to provide a vast recreational area like Kentucky Lake?" This was the suggestion, but no-one fanned the spark. It did not die, but it did not glow.

Many years later, men and women who lived in and loved Eddyville, regardless of its static existence, fanned that spark. They fanned it with letters and telephone calls to the Federal government, with insistent visits to the U. S. Corps of Engineers' district office in Nashville, with appeals to fellow residents to become interested in and to work hard for the flood control project, and finally, with determination to save a town which was already suffering a lingering death.

Many people were involved in this labor of devotion, but three men whose efforts are plainly visible throughout the struggle are Jim N. Smith, president of the First State Bank; Ben H. Smith, his brother, cashier of the bank and city clerk; and Mayor Frank Tanner.

These key individuals rallied the support of other well-known Eddyville and area residents. They stopped talking about helping Eddyville, and went out and did something about it. The Corps of Engineers took up the challenge. Federal funds were allocated, and a dam site was selected. The Eddyville City Council then awakened to a startling realization. The creation of the dam would be the destruction of the town. When the dam was completed, and when the reservoir was filled, Eddyville would be almost entirely under water.

The problem was made even more complex by the knowledge that a neighboring town, Kuttawa, would also be affected. Officials of both towns got together and discussed the possibility of annexing a large section of land to the north, then moving and combining the two into one geographical and governmental unit. This plan met with considerable opposition; so, unhappily, the meetings came to an end, and Eddyville began to plan for its own future.

Land was annexed to the north, and representatives of the Corps outlined plans for helping to relocate persons who would be displaced by the water which would eventually cover the town. Indications were that about fifty homes and the penitentiary would be out of reach of the water, although the penitentiary would have good, dry land on only one side.

About four years ago interest in the project began to churn in the mind of Mr. Lee S. Jones of Louisville. Mr. Jones had been born near the site chosen for the new town. Pleased with developments in the area near his birthplace, he purchased two thousand acres of land, and almost immediately donated 300 acres for construction of a new Eddyville school.

Ben Smith took Milligan on a tour of the present city. Of special interest were the many high-water marks on some of the buildings inundated by floods. When the Barkley Dam is completed, the entire area pictured above will be flooded.

The photographer caught this dramatic view of the Kentucky State Penitentiary, Eddyville's largest single employer.

Much of the color and age of Eddyville is apparent in the LaClede Hotel which is one of the landmarks of the town.

He then took a close look at this business of relocating the people of the old town. He knew that the Federal government would reimburse them for the property they were losing, and he also knew low-interest-rate loans would be granted to those wishing to move to the new town. But, what was to keep many of the people from leaving the area altogether? Where was the incentive to assure that new Eddyville would be a living, growing city?

Mr. Jones helped provide that incentive. On August 28, 1959, nearly two thousand people gathered at the site of the new town. Bands played, the crowd consumed barbecues and soft drinks, and everyone settled down to hear state and local officials formally dedicate new Eddyville. Lee Jones was there, too—to perform a unique duty. To every single resident of old Eddyville who wanted to become a vital part of the new town, he gave the land for their new homes.

The sun was white hot when, after opening remarks and observances, popular Mayor Tanner stepped to the microphone for the dedication. His warm, proud voice commanded everyone's attention as he told how Eddyville would be re-born. Then he stammered, was unable to continue, and had to be helped to his seat. Frank Tanner had suffered a stroke. The people of Eddyville were stunned. Frank Tanner had been their mayor for more than twenty years. He had devoted long hours to the fight for a new Eddyville and a new future. Now they learned he had given too much of himself in their behalf.

But the same determination and spirit that enabled Mayor Tanner to fight for his town gave him the strength to fight for his life, and he won the battle!

Evidence of the work and efforts of these men can be found easily now.

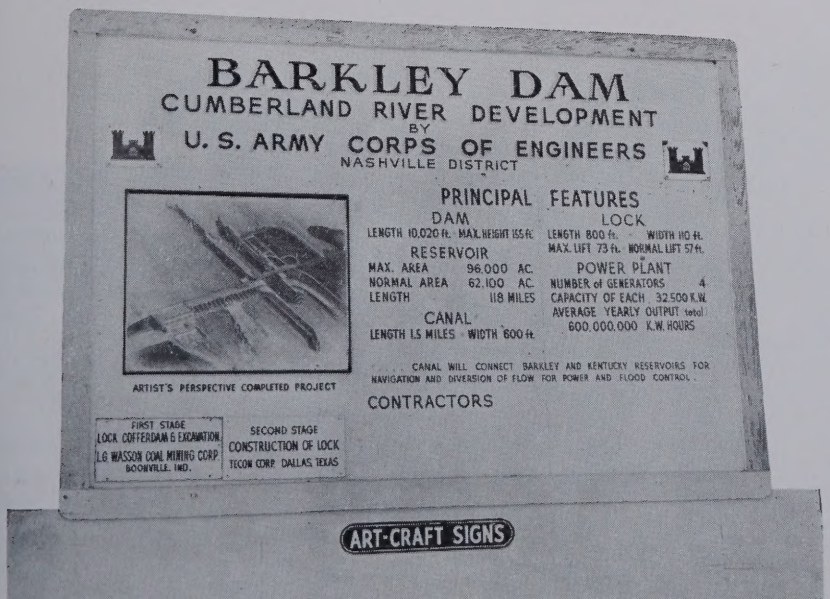
Construction of the dam is well under way. Named Barkley Dam after the former Vice-President of the United States, whose home was in nearby Paducah, the dam will be 10,020 feet long, with a maximum height of 155 feet. The lake, or reservoir, which it will create, will cover a maximum area of 96,000 acres, a normal area of 62,100 acres, and will be 118 miles long.

The first and second stages of construction (the cofferdam and lock) are in process. The lock will be 800 feet long, and 110 feet wide; it will have a maximum lift of 73 feet, and a normal lift of 57 feet. The power plant will contain four generators, each with a capacity of 32,500 kilowatts. The average yearly output of this power unit will be 600,000,000 kilowatt hours.

A canal one and one-half miles long and 600 feet wide will connect Barkley Reservoir with Kentucky Lake for navigation and diversion of flow for power and flood control.

While construction of the dam proceeds, crews of men are busy at the site of new Eddyville. Several homes are nearly finished and occupied, while others are in varying stages of construction.

The first stages of construction in the project are the building of the cofferdam and lock. The lock will be 800 feet long and 110 feet wide and have a maximum lift of 73 feet.



Roads are being graded, and hydrants and water services are being installed. The entire area has been almost completely cleared and staked out. Ground-breaking for the new school, the estimated cost of which is near half a million dollars, is expected to take place yet this year. Construction of the main business district will begin in 1961.

An ultra-modern, well-equipped sewage treatment and disposal plant has been completed at a cost of $100,000. The water plant will develop a 180,000 gallon-per-day capacity. The current source of supply is Kuttawa Springs, located near the town site. Water will eventually be drawn from Barkley Reservoir.

The present design of new Eddyville calls for 190 units—145 residences, 40 commercial buildings and five public buildings. Officials anticipate that most of Eddyville's 600 residents will move to the new town. At the same time, they are confident that the population will soon reach 2,000.

An aura of enthusiasm surrounds Jim and Ben Smith. Throughout the years, the First State Bank has kept its firm footing, thanks to the efforts first of Mr. Smith senior, and followed in more recent years by Jim and Ben. The Smiths are thus in a position to aid in financing new commercial ventures in the new town, thereby maintaining their role as prime movers in this dynamic project.

And Frank Tanner, convalescing at home, is looking forward to new Eddyville with a sense of satisfaction for long years of effort.

Soon—within five years—the river will claim Eddyville for all time. But the people are prepared. They are building their bright and promising future without a look backward.

And the Cumberland, into which is woven the fabric of a once-hesitant town, moves slowly and majestically, but inevitably, toward the end of its violence at Eddyville.

About 190 residences and commercial buildings will be erected in the new community according to the architect's sketch. Once new Eddyville begins moving, city officials expect the population to grow to 2,000 persons.

It would be thoughtless to end an issue of this nature without expressing our sincere appreciation to those persons and firms which have made the issue possible. Yet, this is always a problem. "To err is human," said a bard of old. So, if we fail to mention someone, it is simply a mistake. Actually, it is impossible to thank everyone, but here is a start.

Our thanks to those persons and firms who made the Eddyville story possible by providing necessary information:

Barge, Waggoner and Sumner, Nashville, Tennessee, engineers and planners.

Clyde Wolfe, general superintendent, Holloway & Son, Middletown, Kentucky.

Terry & Wright of Kentucky, Inc., Louisville, Kentucky, prime contractors.

Sterett Construction Co. of Owensboro, Kentucky.

John Woodruff, grading contractor.

Merle A. Nelson, Jr., resident engineer, Barge, Waggoner and Sumner.

Wm. Hunter Owen, associate engineer, Barge, Waggoner and Sumner.

. . . and all those persons pictured and mentioned in the story.

* * *

Not to be overlooked are those persons who, month after month, contribute their know-how to the publication of the MUELLER RECORD:

Huston-Patterson Corp., Decatur, Illinois, printers.

Kane Engraving Co., Decatur, Illinois, engravers.

Cecil's Studio, Decatur, Illinois, photography.

Decatur Paper House, Decatur, Illinois, paper stock.

. . . and last but far from least, those Mueller Co. sales representatives who so faithfully supply the editor with material and ideas. Without their cooperation, the RECORD could not be in your hands today.

* * *

To echo words which appear on Page 2 of this, our golden anniversary MUELLER RECORD, all of us at Mueller Co. hope you will be with us as readers long, long into the future.